

COPY OF ALL CLAIMS

1-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A process for producing a relief printing plate from a laser-engravable material, which comprises engraving a relief image into a laser-engravable recording material using a laser, which recording material comprises a dimensionally stable support and a laser-engravable recording layer comprising at least one polymeric binder and at least one absorber for laser radiation, wherein said polymeric binder is at least one ~~consists essentially of~~ a silicone rubber and said absorber is a ferrous inorganic solid and/or carbon black, and wherein said laser-engravable recording layer has a thickness between 0.1 to 7 mm, and wherein the amount of silicon rubber is at least 75% by weight, relative to the total amount of binder used.
11. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein the laser-engravable recording layer has a thickness between 0.5 to 7 mm.
12. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein the recording material includes a removable cover sheet which is removed prior to the engraving with the laser.
13. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein the process is conducted in the presence of an oxygen containing gas.
14. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein said absorber is an iron oxide selected from the group consisting of FeOOH, Fe_2O_3 or Fe_3O_4 .

HILLER et al., Serial No. 10/090,229

15. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein said recording layer includes further inorganic fillers.
16. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein said recording material includes an additional top layer which is also removed during the engraving with a laser.
17. (previously presented) The process of claim 16 wherein said top layer includes an absorber for laser radiation.
18. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein said recording material comprises an additional bottom layer between the support and the laser-engrivable recording layer.
19. (previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein a flexographic printing plate is formed.
20. (canceled)